

**Bremerton Gasworks Superfund Site
Community Interviews for EPA Community Involvement Plan and DOH Public
Health Assessment
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Summary

Objectives

EPA's and DOH's purpose today was twofold: (1) gather information from the community about how they want to be involved and how they would like to receive information about agency activities at the site (2) hear people's concerns about the site and any information they may have about the site. EPA is preparing a Community Involvement Plan for the site and DOH is preparing a preliminary Public Health Assessment.

Attendance

Thirteen people attended in total. Three people attended the afternoon session from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m., and ten people came to the evening session from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Community Recommendations for Getting Information about Site

- Channel 12 – local
- Mailings to house; fliers distributed to entire neighborhood
- Webpage, email
- Bimonthly neighborhood meeting, possibly at Gage's house
- Postings in neighborhood community centers, on telephone poles
- Newspaper (Kitsap Sun) not generally a good method, some people don't get or read

- Set up routine communications, use simple language
- Use webpages and links to other pages, post useful, pertinent site documents
- Newspapers (public notices, press releases) – *though many said people don't read or pay attention to the newspaper*
- Posters effective for community meetings in this area. Use the good old-fashioned poster on a telephone pole.
- "E-mail loops" with key individuals in community, to get information out by word of mouth.
- Note that not everyone will show up from the community even if the word gets out.
- Facebook not a great option for this community
- Engage District 6 Council members
- Set up regular informal briefings about the site with City Council
- Andrea Spencer, City of Bremerton Community Development (Bill R's note)

Community Questions and Concerns

Health

- Concerns about drinking water – is it safe?
- Concerns about eating blackberries growing near site
- Homeless people periodically live on the site and could be exposed to contaminants
- Kids play down to the end of the block near the site
- What are the contaminants at the site and their health effects?
- Question about whether local cancers could be related to the site. Could there be a "cancer cluster"?
- Is it safe to swim in the water at the site?
- Does this site pose mainly a human health or an eco concern?
- Are there signs posted about health risks at the site?
- What will the boundaries of this Superfund site be after you do your investigation? How big? Will my house be included?

Economic

- Concern about property values depreciating in the neighborhood
- How long will Superfund process take and at what cost?
- Interest in land redevelopment. Some ideas: park, office buildings.
- Who is liable for paying for the cleanup?